

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUJUMB 00540 281228Z

46

ACTION AF-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4940

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUJUMBURA 0540

FOR AF/C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID

SUBJECT: U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICE COURSE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRY
CUSTOMS SERVICES

1. DEPUTY CUSTOMS DIRECTOR IN BURUNDI HAS ENQUIRED ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF HIS ATTENDING COURSE BEING OFFERED IN WASHINGTON, D.C. SEPT. 8 - OCT. 31 BY THE U.S. CUSTOMS SERVICES'S INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS DIVISION ESPECIALLY FOR CUSTOMS OFFICIALS FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. A NOTICE OF THE COURSE WAS PASSED TO BURUNDI CUSTOMS BY THE CUSTOMS COOPERATION COUNCIL IN BRUSSELS BUT NO OTHER INFORMATION IS PROVIDED IN THE NOTICE. COULD DEPARTMENT CHECK WITH CUSTOMS SERVICE TO SEE: A) WILL THE COURSE BE OFFERED IN FRENCH; B) IS REGISTRATION FOR THE COURSE STILL OPEN AND C) ARE ANY AMERICAN FINANCIAL RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR TRAVEL AND PER DIEM COSTS SINCE GRB WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO FUND THEM.

2. GIVEN FREQUENT (AND SOMETIMES DIFFICULT) EMBASSY DEALINGS WITH BURUNDI CUSTOMS, WE WOULD VERY MUCH LIKE TO BE FORTHCOMING ON THIS REQUEST IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. IN ADDITION, CUSTOMS COULD CERTAINLY PROFIT FROM ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL COMPETENCE AND FROM GREATER AWARENESS OF EXPERIENCE AND PRACTICES OF CUSTOMS SERVICES ELSEWHERE.
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